

lady D——. If she had been my daughter, I would never suffer her to go into company again; I had a great mind to box her ears. You see, my dear, that your vanity, or self-love, is a folly, which instead of making you esteemed, induces all the world to hate you. You have told every body that this lady is an ignorant woman; but at the same time you have made them believe that you are censorious. You have done yourself much more injury than you have her, who was the subject of your ridicule. Endeavour therefore to become good and charitable. Think before you speak, and ask yourself this question. Am not I going to say some ill-natured thing? Instead of making remarks upon other people's faults or imperfections, make it your business to observe their good qualities, and then all the world will admire you.—Now Lady Maria will tell us her history.

*Lady Maria.* Abraham loved his son Isaac extremely, but he loved God Almighty better, as indeed he ought. One day

day God said to Abraham, Take your son Isaac, and go up upon a high mountain, to sacrifice him unto me; that is to say, to cut off his head, and afterwards burn his body. It was the custom of those times to kill beasts and offer them to God, and after that, they were burnt; but it was God's pleasure to have Isaac instead of a beast. Any other person besides Abraham would have said, God has promised to give my son Isaac a great many children, but if I kill him that cannot be; but Abraham had more wisdom. He never hesitated when God commanded him to do any thing, for he knew very well that God could do those things which to him appeared impossible. Abraham prepared some wood, and ordered Isaac to carry it; and while they were going up to the mountain, Isaac said to him, Father, we have got wood and fire to light it, but we have not any beast to offer as a sacrifice unto the Lord. The Lord will provide us one, replied Abraham. But when they were got to the top of the mountain, he

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